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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR

DATE DISTR. May 52

SUBJECT Soviet Army Officer Reserves

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE
ACQUIREDNO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)DATE
ACQUIREDSUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

DATE OF I

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SOURCE

1. I do not know that anything like an organized Officers' Reserve Corps exists in the USSR. I have never heard of any organization by that name. The officer demobilization policy applied after the world war II was different for company grade and for higher officers.
2. Officers up to the rank of captain were simply discharged from the army and put into reserve status (uvoleny v zapas). They do not have the right to wear the uniform and were given no pensions or compensations of any kind. Like enlisted personnel they returned to their normal civilian jobs. They are, however, registered with their respective Voenkomats as reserve officers and subject to military service in case of war or an emergency, in which case they would be returned to service with the rank held at the time of their discharge. In peacetime they may volunteer and be returned to the service if there is a need for officers.
3. Officers with the rank of major and up were put on the retirement list (votstavku) after their demobilization. They retained their rank, were given the right to wear the uniform and received pensions. Those with the rank of major and lt colonel receive 80% of their total army pay; colonels and generals receive 90%. As far as I know they have no obligations to the army and cannot be called into service against their will except in case of war.

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4. I do not know the approximate size of Soviet army reserves, but I assume there are probably more than 250,000 officers and about six to eight million enlisted men. The annual call-up of reservists varies according to existing needs. I know that in 1949 when the Soviet AAA in Germany was expanded the Moscow Military District called up 280 AAA reserve officers. Normally reserve officers called to service are assigned positions as platoon leaders, company and battalion commanders. I never heard of any reserve officer assigned to a higher position than battalion commander.

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